

Patent Application Serial No. 10/600,373
Amendment dated February 28, 2006

Page 2

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A plug baffle device for installation in a coolant passage of a mold, the plug baffle device comprising a coolant-encountering fin and a separate base member in tolerance-fit tight mechanical engagement therewith, the base member having a mold-connecting portion adapted for sealing closure with the mold.
2. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 1 wherein the base member is mechanically attached to the coolant-encountering fin through a mating connection.
3. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 2 wherein the mating connection is accomplished by a male interconnecting member and a female interconnecting member.
4. (currently amended) The plug baffle device of claim 8 [[3]] wherein the male interconnecting member is integral with the coolant-encountering fin and the female interconnecting member is integral with the base member.
5. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 4 wherein:
 - the female interconnecting member defines a fin-receiving channel having a channel cross-section; and
 - the male interconnecting member has a base-engaging portion with a base-engaging-portion cross-section complementary to the channel cross-section.
6. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 5 wherein the base-engaging-portion cross-section is T-shaped.

Patent Application Serial No. 10/600,373
Amendment dated February 28, 2006

Page 3

7. (currently amended) The plug baffle device of claim 5 wherein the base member has first and second ends and includes:

- a mold-connecting portion that is substantially cylindrical, has a threaded outer surface, and defines a tool-engaging socket opening at the first end of the base member; and
- an extension portion that extends from the mold-connection portion to form the second end of the base member, the extension portion having one of the male and female interconnecting member members.

8. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 7 wherein the tool-engaging socket has an axial depth which is at least 80% of the axial length of the threaded outer surface.

9. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 8 wherein the tool-engaging socket has an axial depth which is at least 90% of the axial length of the threaded outer surface.

10. (previously presented) The plug baffle device of claim 7 wherein the extension portion narrows in cross-dimension toward the fin, thereby to provide lateral flow space adjacent thereto.

11. (previously presented) The plug baffle device of claim 1 wherein the base member has first and second ends and includes:

- a mold-connecting portion that is substantially cylindrical, has a threaded outer surface, and defines a tool-engaging socket opening at the first end of the base member; and
- an extension portion that extends from the mold-connection portion to form the second end of the base member, the coolant-encountering fin being attached thereto.

Patent Application Serial No. 10/600,373
Amendment dated February 28, 2006

Page 4

12. (previously presented) A plug baffle device for installation in a coolant passage of a mold, the plug baffle device comprising:

- a coolant-encountering fin; and
- a base member mechanically attached thereto, the base member having first and second ends and including (A) a substantially cylindrical mold-connection portion which has a threaded outer surface and defines a tool-engaging socket opening at the first end of the base member, the tool-engaging socket having an axial depth which is at least 80% of the axial length of the threaded outer surface, and (B) an extension portion that extends from the mold-connection portion to form the second end of the base member, the coolant-encountering fin being attached thereto.

13. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 12 wherein the tool-engaging socket has an axial depth which is at least 90% of the axial length of the threaded outer surface.

14. (previously presented) The plug baffle device of claim 12 wherein the extension portion narrows in cross-dimension toward the fin, thereby to provide lateral flow space adjacent thereto.

15. (currently amended) A plug baffle device comprising:

- a coolant-encountering fin having a base-member-engaging portion; and
- a separate base member defining an axis and defining a female fin-receiving portion which is in tolerance-fit tight mechanical engagement with the fin.

16. (cancelled).

Patent Application Serial No. 10/600,373
Amendment dated February 28, 2006

Page 5

17. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 15 wherein:

- the female fin-receiving portion defining a fin-receiving space which has an axially-facing entrance of first cross-sectional area, the fin-receiving space having a second cross-sectional area axially spaced from the entrance, the second cross-sectional area being greater than the first cross-sectional area; and
- the base-member-engaging portion of the fin has a third axial cross-sectional area greater than the first cross-sectional area, thereby preventing axial disengagement of the fin from the base member.

18. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 17 wherein:

- the base-member-engaging portion has a trans-axial cross-sectional shape which is substantially constant along at least a segment of the width thereof; and
- the fin-receiving space is a trans-axial channel configured and arranged to be substantially complementary to the base-member-engaging portion.

19. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 18 wherein the trans-axial cross-sectional shape is T-shaped.

20. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 15 wherein the fin has a coolant-contacting portion which is plate-like.

21. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 15 wherein the fin has a coolant-contacting portion which is helical.

Patent Application Serial No. 10/600,373
Amendment dated February 28, 2006

Page 6

22. (previously presented) The plug baffle device of claim 15 wherein the base member has first and second ends and includes:

- a mold-connecting portion that is substantially cylindrical, has a threaded outer surface, and defines a tool-engaging socket opening at the first end of the base member; and
- an extension portion that extends from the mold-connection portion to form the second end of the base member, the coolant-encountering fin being attached thereto.

23. (previously presented) A plug baffle device comprising:

- a coolant-encountering fin having a base-member-engaging portion; and
- a base member mechanically attached thereto and defining an axis, the base member having first and second ends and including (A) a substantially cylindrical mold-connection portion which has a threaded outer surface and defines a tool-engaging socket opening at the first end of the base member, the tool-engaging socket having an axial depth which is at least 80% of the axial length of the threaded outer surface, and (B) an extension portion that extends from the mold-connection portion to form the second end of the base member and forms a female fin-receiving portion with which the base-member-engaging portion of the fin is mechanically attached.

24. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 23 wherein the tool-engaging socket has an axial depth which is at least 90% of the axial length of the threaded outer surface.

25. (previously presented) The plug baffle device of claim 23 wherein the extension portion narrows in cross-dimension toward the fin, thereby to provide lateral flow space adjacent thereto.

Claims 26-28 (cancelled)